

Legislature Passes Minimum Wage Rate Increase

The Michigan State Senate and House of Representatives have both passed legislation (SB318) which, if signed by Governor Granholm, will increase Michigan's minimum wage rate to \$6.95 beginning October 1, 2006; \$7.15 beginning July 1, 2007; and \$7.40 beginning July 1, 2008. The bill additionally provides that if the ballot proposal that establishes a minimum wage is approved by the voters during the November 7, 2006, general election, the minimum wage established in the ballot proposal shall supersede the language of this bill. The Legislature's passage of SB318 is a historical event, as the last time the minimum wage rate was increased was in 1997 and this is the first time that Michigan's minimum wage rate will exceed the current federal minimum rate of \$5.15.